5

10

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A taking lens is driven in steps each producing movement of the taking lens through a distance greater than a depth of field, and an evaluation value is determined based on a captured image obtained from a CCD imaging device in each position to which the lens is driven. Then, a predetermined interpolation process is performed on a plurality of evaluation values obtained in respective positions to which the lens is driven to derive an in-focus position of the taking lens for bringing an in-focus plane into coincidence with an imaging plane. The taking lens is driven to the in-focus position to achieve an in-focus condition. This allows efficient determination of the in-focus position in a digital camera.